

Wittenberg Has Ham Radio Club

BY HELEN ADAMS -

WITTENBERG—A ham radio club, one of the few in high schools in the area is an active organization at Wittenberg High school. Its members are currently instructing six hopefuls, including three feminine students, in code and theory prior to seeking licenses as amateur radio operators. Ten of the members already have operators' licenses.

The club, known as Carbonero Amateur Radio Club (CARC), taken from the first name given to the Wittenberg settlement, meets each Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the school. Besides transacting business, members practice the radio telegraph code and study technical information. Plans are being made to arrange a transmitter hunt.

The Shawano Civil Defense Club has placed transceivers in strategic locations in the county, including at Wittenberg and Birnamwood High schools.

CARC's president is S. Sgt. Ray Schroeder, Eland, a license operator with W9EFG as his call and currently head of the military affiliated radio system (MARS) at Antigo Radar Base, Town of Harrison.

CARC members feel they have benefited greatly by the advice he has given them, including help in building radio equipment.

Ronald Newcomb, the club's vice president, has confirmed contacts with persons in all 50 states and in some foreign countries on his call, K9AB. His home station consists of a transmitter with a power of 90 watts, a receiver, a two-element 15 meter beam and a dipole antenna for each of the other bands. Ronald also has a two meter transmitter installed in his car.

Because of television interference problems, the secretary, Ernst Berndt (WA9BIP), hasn't been on the air too much but he has talked to many stations in the state on a 75 meter phone band.

The treasurer, Kenneth Oestreich, is active on a two meter phone band with his call, WN9CMT. He talks to "hams" in Wittenberg, Eland, Shawano and Green Bay. Kenneth also has a transceiver installed in his car.

Contacts with "hams" in 47 states and 35 countries have been made by Dennis Spranger, (K9AEG), who is CARC's activities manager. Dennis has had his license for about two years and also is a MARS member. His home station is equipped with a DX-40 transmitter, an R-100 receiver and a two-element beam for 15 meters.

Other members in the club are from Birnamwood, Eland and Galloway.